

HURWOOD'S PATENT FOR MOVING WINDOWS, &c.

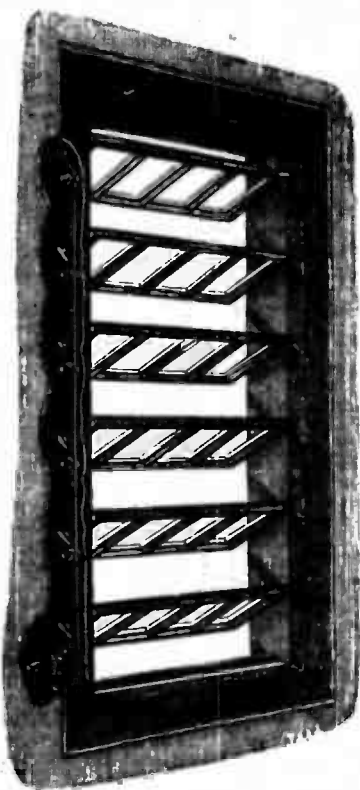


Fig. 1.

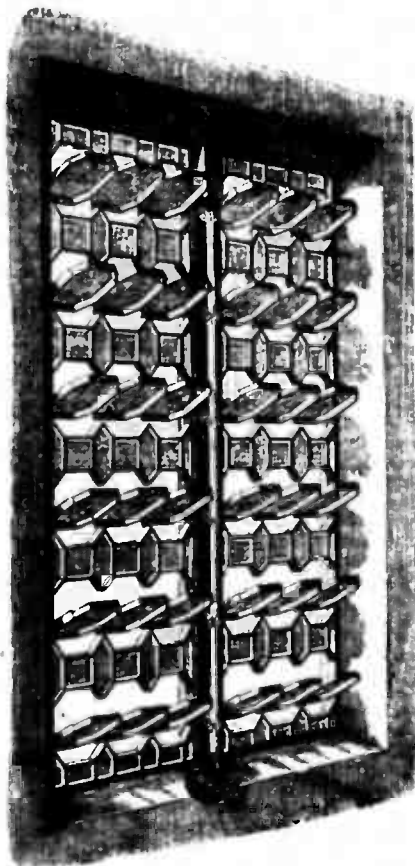


Fig. 2.

THE SMALL-POX HOSPITAL COMPETITION.

SEVERAL members of the profession have written to us expressing themselves very indignant, that in spite of the assertions of the committee that they would not select a design until assured that it could be executed for 12,000*l.*, the lowest tender for the design, by Mr. Daukes, which was selected to be carried out, amounts with the foundations, &c. already put in, to 18,700*l.* There is no occasion for us to repeat our opinion on the principle involved in this matter. The competitor who best gave the committee the required accommodation for the sum to which they limited architects, was the person entitled to the premium.

Mr. S. A. Matthews (a pupil of the late George Allen) has addressed a statement to us, in which he says, "My design for the Small Pox Hospital stood first in the estimation of Mr. S. Smirke and Mr. J. Shaw, the architects referred to, and of the committee, and would have been carried out, had not Mr. Daukes guaranteed to execute his design for about the sum of 12,000*l.* The Chairman informed me at the time he handed me the second premium, that mine was lost even then by one vote only. My design would cost about 13,000*l.*" At the solicitation of Mr. Matthews, and because we think it may not in other respects be useless, we have engraved his design, and we give his statement as affording an example how the system works.*

* The following is the architect's description of his design:—The entire length of the building is 260 feet, width 34 feet 6 inches; depth of wings 23 feet 6 inches by 23 feet 6 inches wide, including the thickness of the walls. The basement does not include the wings nor the entire width, is 12 feet high, contained kitchen, scullery, pantries, provision stores, domestic washhouses, laundry, coal-cellar, &c. Ground floor, 12 feet high, contained, on the left of principal entrance, visitors' waiting-room, strong-room, secretaries' room, board-room, and surgeons' and matron's sitting-

We are not advocating any claim of Mr. Matthews: for anything we know, it might be shown that to carry out his design would also cost much more than the sum named. In that case, he ought not to have had even the second premium. We have nothing to do with persons, we are looking only to principles; and the right and wrong in this matter are so evident, that none can mistake who desire to go right.

HURWOOD'S PATENT FOR WINDOWS.

DURING a recent visit to Ipswich, we had the opportunity of examining some applications of a mode of moving and fastening windows (dispensing with pulleys, weights, fastenings, &c.), for which Mr. Hurwood, engineer of that town, obtained a patent some time since, and which deserves to be better known beyond Ipswich than it is. The principal feature in the invention is the application of the screw

working into a wheel or rack as prime mover. It is applied to windows of various forms, two of which we illustrate.

In fig. 1, it will be seen that the window is divided into as many portions as there are panes in height. Each part turns upon two pivots, one of them being sufficiently long to pass through the frame to receive a small crank. A screw and portion of a screw wheel is fixed at the bottom of the frame independent of the sashes, to which a crank is also connected: a slight flat rod is attached to the crank fixed to the same axis as the screw wheel, and also to each of the cranks connected to the window, so that when motion is given to the screw wheel by the screw being turned, the window is more or less moved.

In fig. 2 the apparatus is fixed to the centre mullion of the window. In others only the top part of the window opens. For Lunatic Asylums, and other places, where it is of importance there should be good ventilation, and that the inmates should have no control over the windows (a key, it will be observed, is necessary), this invention of Mr. Hurwood will be found particularly available.

We had written a memorandum upon the town, but must postpone it for another number.

SUPPLY OF WATER TO AMSTERDAM.—

A company, managed by a board in London, is being formed, with a capital of 600,000*l.*, in 30,000 shares of 20*l.* each with 2*l.* per share deposit, to supply Amsterdam with water from the Rhine. The privilege has been conceded in perpetuity to this company, who are to be entitled to a maximum charge of twice the amount believed to be capable of yielding a return of 24 per cent. The responsibility is limited, it is said, to the amount subscribed.